Serial No.: 09/671,117

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing claims 13, 21-24 and 28-29 are cancelled herein, without prejudice of disclaimer and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 15, 17, 20 and 25-27 are pending and under consideration.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Applicants request entry of this Rule 116 because the amendment puts this application into condition for allowance by canceling rejected claims 13, 21-24 and 28-29.

ITEM 3: ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner indicates that claims 15, 17, 20 and 25-27 are allowed. (Action at page 4). Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: October 7, 2004

Paul W. Bobowiec

Registration No. 47,431

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: (202) 434-1500 Facsimile: (202) 434-1501